

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 087397

61

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

TRSE-00 EA-11 AEC-11 ADP-00 AID-20 MC-02 PM-09 EUR-25

/101 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ ITP/ EWT: JMGREGORY, JR.: MAR

5/8/73 EXT 20442

APPROVED BY EB/ ITP/ EWT: JMGREGORY, JR.

COMMERCE/ OEC: EPWALINSKY (SUBS)

EA/ J - MR. ERICSON

EA - MR. MARTIN

EUR/ WE - MR. BURNS

PM/ MC - MR. SIPES (INF0)

RPE

----- 008929

P R 082141 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 087397

EXCON

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, AU, JA

SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN STRATEGIC EXPORT CONTROLS

REFS: A. OECD PARIS 12277

B. CANBERRA 2575

1. WITHOUT MENTIONING SUBJECT IN ADVANCE, AUSTRALIAN
EMBASSY COUNSELOR FERNANDEZ CALLED UPON DEPUTY ASSISTANT
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PAGE 02 STATE 087397

SECRETARY BARGER ON MAY 7, 1973 TO EXPLAIN WHITLAM ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAY 8 RE AUSTRALIAN STRATEGIC EXPORT CONTROLS. FERNANDEZ DID NOT LEAVE AIDE- MEMOIRE BUT RAPIDLY LEAFED THROUGH LENGTHY BUT WHAT HE CONSIDERED PRO FORMA INSTRUCTION. HE STRESSED THAT WHITLAM ANNOUNCEMENT HAS LITTLE PRACTICAL SIGNIFICANCE BECAUSE (A) AUSTRALIA DOES NOT PRODUCE ANY OF THE ITEMS EMBARGOED BY COCOM; (B) THE GOA ANNOUNCEMENT DOES NOT APPLY TO MILITARY GOODS OR NUCLEAR MATERIALS; AND (C) THE GOA WOULD NOT PERMIT TRANSHIPMENT OF EMBARGOED GOODS.

2. DEPT IS EXAMINING RECORD OF EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA TO DETERMINE STATUS OF ANY EMBARGOED ITEMS WHICH ARE FOUND. MOREOVER, COMMERCE LICENSING OFFICIALS WILL HENCEFORTH NOTE ABSENCE OF CONTROL AS A FACTOR FOR CONSIDERATION IN ISSUANCE OF LICENSES FOR TECHNOLOGY.

3. WE ASSUME FERNANDEZ STATEMENTS CORRECT BUT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSESSMENT WHETHER AUSTRALIA PRODUCES ANY NON- MILITARY ITEMS LISTED ON COCOM, OR ALTERNATIVELY, BATTLE ACT LISTS.

4. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO REPORT TEXT OF WHITLAM ANNOUNCEMENT AND, AT ITS DISCRETION, TO SUGGEST TO APPROPRIATE GOA OFFICIALS THAT THIS QUESTION IS SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO COCOM MEMBERS TO WARRANT SUBMISSION THROUGH UKDEL OF A STATEMENT REPORTING CHANGES AND STATING EXTENT OF CONTINUING AUSTRALIAN CONTROLS. (UKDEL USUALLY ASSUMES LIAISON ROLE FOR COCOM TOWARD COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CANADA WHICH IS ITSELF A MEMBER.) EMBASSY LONDON MAY WISH INFORMALLY TO MAKE SAME SUGGESTION TO FCO OFFICIALS.

5. BOTH EMBASSY CANBERRA AND EMBASSY TOKYO MAY INFORM GOJ OFFICIALS OF ABOVE AND SHOULD STRESS PARTICULARLY THAT JAPANESE POSITION AS MEMBER OF COCOM, AS A MAJOR LICENSEE OF US MILITARY AND EMBARGOED CIVIL TECHNOLOGY (WITH MILITARY FALLOUT), AND AS ONE OF WORLD' S HIGH TECHNOLOGY LEADERS IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF AUSTRALIA.

6. FOR THE MOST PART AUSTRALIA IS ENGAGED IN PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RELIES ON IMPORTS FOR ADVANCED ELECTRONIC
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EQUIPMENT AND DUAL- USE PRODUCTS OF THE KIND EMBARGOED BY COCOM. PRACTICAL EFFECTS OF AUSTRALIAN ACTION APPEAR NIL FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPORT CONTROLS.

7. BUT JAPANESE POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS FIELD IS PIVOTAL AND OF THE HIGHEST ORDER OF IMPORTANCE TO THE EXISTENCE OF COCOM. JAPANESE WILL ALSO APPRECIATE

OF COURSE THE ENORMOUS IMPACT THAT A CHANGE IN ITS POSITION
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THE US. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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